WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

For detailed information and to register for the below programs and events, visit our website: https://eastminsterpres.org/.

The Flower Guild invites You to Dedicate Easter Lilies for Easter Morning: Pick up a form at the Welcome Center, or make your dedication and pay online. Dedications (\$25) are due to Julie McDaniel by April 9.

Sundays@5 Witness at the Cross Lenten Book Study Tonight: led by Dr. Douglass Key in the Adult Reception Hall (ARH). Our study is Amy-Jill Levine's book, Witness at the Cross. During Lent, you are invited to experience the events of Good Friday from the perspective of those who watched Jesus die.

Sundays@5 Lectio Divina Study Tonight: Led by Rev. Emily Mooneyhan in Room 256 of the Christian Education Building. Join us for "Divine Reading" where we'll read Scripture slowly and meditatively open our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit, to offer solace and peace in today's world.

Women's Revelation Bible Study Tonight at 5 pm (E-353): Led by guest teacher Emily Craig, who led the Community Bible Study in Georgetown, SC, where over 300 attend or stream the study. Join us!

ECAMP Meets Tonight at 5 pm: Singers in 4K through fifth grade are welcome! Visit our website's Upcoming Events to volunteer on Sunday nights. Drop-off and pick-up (6:30 pm) in the Sanctuary. We have a devotional, rehearsal, and dinner. Please see emails from Mrs. Stefanie for details.

Bible Doers Will "Do" on Wednesday, March 19, at the Olivers': 6 - 7 am, walk and fellowship, 7 - 8 am, prepare and pray over pasta salad for Transitions. Stop by any time. Friendly faces and coffee will be waiting for you! Text Beth at 803-622-5384 with any questions.

The WE@EPC Meal on Wednesday at 5:15 pm, in Thompson Hall: MENU- Adults: Chicken Wrap with Spinach, Cream Cheese & Bacon, Rice Pilaf, and Broccoli, Carrots & Cauliflower- (Kids: Chicken Tenderloins, Mashed Potatoes, and Broccoli).

Transitions Third Thursday Service Opportunities March 20: Meet us at Transitions at 11:30 am to serve lunch, or support Third Thursday dinners by providing food donations (pasta salad, pound cake, and bananas) by 3 pm (Staff Kitchen), packaging food at 3:45 pm, or serving dinner at 5 pm both at Transitions. You can sign up to volunteer for either AM or PM meal support via Upcoming Events.

EPW Honorary Life Member Nominations Forms are available online: and are being accepted through March 21, 2025. These memberships are given in recognition of faithful service in some area of the church's work.

"Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes," Adult Book Study Starts March 25 (12 -1 pm): Bring your lunch and meet us in the Adult Reception Hall (3/25, 4/1 & 4/8) for a study that teaches us how to see Jesus through a different lens. Linda Long will lead us. No need to purchase the book, and no homework.

Adult Mission Trip Opportunities in Western North Carolina (April 4-6 & April 6-12): The April 4-6 short trip is full. There is still some room on the April 6-12 trip. Visit Upcoming Events to sign up. The cost per person has been reduced to \$25/day. We will help with much-needed repairs at a mobile home community.

Parents and Youth (13 and older) Chiapas, Mexico Mission Trip (July 27 - August 2): We are returning to Chiapas to visit our missionary friends and to continue helping with repairs after Hurricane Dorian. We will also help lead VBS for the children as well as see some beautiful sights. You can still sign up!

Holy Week is April 13-20, 2025: Join us for Palm Sunday on April 13, Maundy Thursday Communion Worship on April 17 (7 pm Sanctuary), Good Friday Worship on April 18 (7 pm Sanctuary), and Easter Sunday on April 20, when there will be four worship services (6:30 am Sunrise in the Courtyard, 8:45 am Sanctuary, and 10:30 am Sanctuary and Thompson Hall.) Join us in the Courtyard for fellowship before the 10:30 am worship services.

Flowers in the sanctuary are given in celebration of the marriage of Caroline Price and Trey Coxe, and in honor of Henry and Bobbie Price and in memory of Bill and Nell Riddle.

UNISON READING: Isaiah 58:6-7

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

SERMON NOTES





DEACONS: JONI RICHARDSON AND RICHARD SLATER HEAD USHER: DON HELMS (9:00 AM) AND BILL COGGINS (11:15 AM)

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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Parish Associate Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry Louis Shirer, Organist Blythe Lewis, Sr. Communications Officer Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian James Cassidy, A/V Director Rev. Emily M. Mooneyhan, Associate Pastor Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate Alisha Hudson, Ex. Dir. Finance and Admin. Emily Higgins, Director of Middle School Youth Katie Herndon, Day School Director Christy Rippy, Treasurer SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT MARCH 16, 2025 9:00 AND 11:15 AM

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www.eastminsterpres.org

Welcome to Eastminster Presbyterian Church!

In Christ's name, we welcome you to Eastminster. We hope that you will feel the love and peace of Christ as you worship with us. Please take this time to silence the world and focus your heart and mind on worshiping our living God.

"So welcome each other, in the same way that Christ also welcomed you, for God's glory." Romans 15:7

PRELUDE

Variations on "Detroit"

David Hurd

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The heavens are singing, proclaiming God's glory.

People: Let all creation and all we creatures lift praise to God! Leader: God alone is Lord. All others should humbly bow low.

People: Jesus lifts the lowly and humbles the proud.

All: Give us ears to hear, hearts to follow, and voices to proclaim

your sovereignty, O Christ our King!

†*HYMN OF ADORATION #412

God Reveal Your Presence

ARNSBURG

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

*THE APOSTLES' CREED (Unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ His only Son our LORD; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**GLORIA PATRI (Please send the children forward.)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

The 3K—5K children may come to the front and bring their offering.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd

Dear Gracious God, You have given us your word, both in your Son and in Scripture. You have promised us your presence, both in Spirit and in community. Even so, we neglect, ignore, and reject your purposes for us. We do not love what you love. We do not embrace what you embrace. We worship false idols. Have mercy on us, O God of all ages. Forgive us for what we do and what we fail to do. Help us turn afresh to you in this time of silent confession, so that we might receive full life in Jesus Christ, now and forevermore...

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

Congregation: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON #718

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Take up your cross, the Savior said, if you would my disciple be; take up your cross with willing heart, and humbly follow after me.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Emily Mooneyhan

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP REGISTER AND OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

If you or someone you know is in need of special prayer today or if you would like to speak personally with a pastor about making a first-time commitment to Christ or growing in the Christian faith and discipleship, a pastor is on hand to speak with you following the worship service today by the pulpit in the front of the Sanctuary.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive

Nancy Raab

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us, Lord, to pray; but you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say. How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart that broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart? In blazing light, your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew; how trifling other's debts to us; how great our debt to you! Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease; then, by your mercy reconciled, our lives will spread you peace.

Rosamond Herklots (1905-1987)

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Those who are able, please stand. **Children may bring their offering at this time.
†Those waiting in the Narthex may now be seated.

FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY IS PROHIBITED IN ALL WORSHIP SERVICES AT EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*OFFICER'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Isaiah 58:6-7 Page 647 Scripture Focus: Luke 16:19-31 Page 75

Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

"The Upside Down Way of Jesus: Do We Need the Dead to Tell Us?"

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #213

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RATHBUN

Lib Foster

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION #443 verse. 2

There is a Redeemer

GREEN

Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names, precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope for sinners slain. Thank you, O my Father, for giving us your Son, and leaving your Spirit till the work on earth is done.

POSTLUDE

Fugue on "Detroit"

David Hurd

*A TIME FOR GREETING AND FELLOWSHIP



WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER

We are delighted that you have chosen to celebrate this Lord's Day with us, and we hope that in a real and meaningful way you will sense God's presence, power, and purpose among us. If you would like for us to connect with you, please leave your contact information in the Friendship Pad when it is passed.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

Contact the church office at 803-256-1654 to learn more and find out about our next First Step class which begins March 2, a class designed to help you learn about Eastminster and our ongoing ministries.

March 23, 2025

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith Luke 19:1-10 "The Upside Down Way of Jesus: Vision Testing"